

T.S.DENISON & COMPANY PUBLISHERS CHICAGO

DENISON'S ACTING PLAYS

Partial List of Successful and Popular Plays. Large Catalogue Free. Price 15c each, Postpald, Unless Different Price Is Given

DRAMAS, COMEDIES, ENTERTAINMENTS, Etc.

ENTERTAINMENTS, Etc.
M. F.
Aaron Boggs, Freshman, 3 acts, 2½ hrs(25c) 8 8
acts, 2½ hrs(25c) 8 8 After the Game, 2 acts, 1½ hrs(25c) 1 9
All a Mistake, 3 acts, 2 hrs.
A TItlan A anta 21/
hrs
As a Woman Thinketh, 3 acts,
2½ hrs(25c) 9 7 At the End of the Rainbow, 3
acts, 2½ hrs(25c) 6 14 Bank Cashier, 4 acts, 2 hrs. (25c)
(25c) 8 4
(25c) 9 3
Brookdale Farm, 4 acts, 21/4 hrs(25c) 7 3
Brother Josiah, 3 acts, 2 hrs.
Burns Rebellion, 1 hr(25c) 8 5
Brookdale Farm, 4 acts, 2¼ hrs,(25c) 7 3 Brother Josiah, 3 acts, 2 hrs. (25c) 7 4 Burns Rebellion, 1 hr(25c) 8 Buy Liar, 3 acts, 2½ hrs. (25c) 7 4
College Town, 3 acts, 21/4
Corner Drug Store, 1 hr.
Danger Signal, 2 acts, 2 hrs 7 4
Busy Liar, 3 acts, 2½ hrs. (25c)
Down in Dixie, 4 acts, 21/2
Dream That Came True, 3
acts, 2½ hrs(25c) 6 13 Editor-in-Chief, 1 hr(25c) 10
Enchanted Wood, 134 h. (35c). Optnl.
(25c) 7 6
hrs
Fascinators, 40 min(25c) 13
(25c)
hrs(25c) 8 4
hrs (25c) 8 4 High School Freshman, 3 acts, 2 hrs (25c) 12 Honor of a Cowboy, 4 acts, 21/2
Honor of a Cowboy, 4 acts, 2½ hrs
Indian Days, 1 hr(50c) 5 2
In Plum Valley, 4 acts, 2 ¹ / ₄ hrs(25c) 6 4
Iron Hand, 4 acts, 2 hrs. (25c) 5 4 Tayville Tunction, 11/6 hrs. (25c) 14 17
Kingdom of Heart's Content, 3
Honor of a Cowboy, 4 acts, 2½ hrs (25c) 13 4 Indian Days, 1 hr (50c) 5 2 In Plum Valley, 4 acts, 2¼ hrs (25c) 6 4 Iron Hand, 4 acts, 2 hrs. (25c) 6 4 Jayville Junction, 1½ hrs. (25c) 14 17 Kingdom of Heart's Content, 3 acts, 2½ hrs (25c) 6 12 Lexington, 4 acts, 2¼ h (25c) 9 4

M. F.
Light Brigade, 40 min(25c) 10
Little Buckshot, 3 acts, 21/4 hrs.
(25c) 7 4
(25c) 7 4
(25c)
Lonelyville Social Club, 3 acts,
1½ hrs(25c) 10
1½ hrs(25c) 10 Man from Borneo, 3 acts, 2
hrs(25c) 5 2
Man from Nevada, 4 acts, 21/2
hrs(25c) 9 5
hrs
New Woman, 3 acts, 1 hr 3 6
New Woman, 3 acts, 1 hr 3 6 Old Maid's Club, 1½ hrs. (25c) 2 16 Old Oaken Bucket, 4 acts, 2
Old Oaken Bucket 4 acts 2
hrs
Old School at Wiele'ry Hollor
1½ hrs
1/4 nrs(230)12 9
hrs (25c) 8 6 Old School at Hick'ry Holler, 11/4 hrs (25c) 12 9 On the Little Big Horn, 4 acts,
272 nrs(25c) 10 4
Out in the Streets, 3 acts, 1 hr. 6 4
Prairie Rose, 4 acts, 21/2 hrs.
(25c) 7 4
Rustic Romeo, 2 acts, 21/4
Rustic Romeo, 2 acts, 2½ lins. (25c) 7 4 Rustic Romeo, 2 acts, 2¼ hrs. (25c) 10 12 School Ma'am, 4 acts, 1¾ hrs. 6 5 Scrap of Paper, 3 acts, 2½ hrs. 6 6 Soldier of Fortune, 5 acts, 2½ h. 8 3
School Ma'am, 4 acts, 134 hrs. 6 5
Scrap of Paper, 3 acts, 2 hrs., 6 6
Soldier of Fortune 5 acts 21/6 h 8 3
Southern Cinderella, 3 acts, 2
hrs(25c) 7
Third Degree 40 min (250) 12
Those Dreadful Twine 2 acts
Those Dreadful Twins, 5 acts,
2 hrs (25c) 6 4
Tony, The Convict, 5 acts, 21/2
Those Dreadful Twins, 3 acts, 2 hrs (25c) 6 4 Tony, The Convict, 5 acts, 2½ hrs (25c) 7 4 Topp's Twins, 4 acts, 2 h (25c) 6 4
Topp's Twins, 4 acts, 2 h. (25c) 6 4
hrs (25c) 6 3 Trip to Storyland, 1½ hrs. (25c) 17 23 Uncle Josh, 4 acts, 2½ hrs. (25c) 8 3 Under Blue Skies, 4 acts, 2 hbre. 25c) 7 10
Trip to Storyland, 11/4 hrs. (25c) 17 23
Uncle Josh, 4 acts, 21/4 hrs. (25c) 8 3
Under Blue Skies, 4 acts, 2
hrs
hrs
When the Circus Came to
When the Circus Came to Town, 3 acts, 21/4 hrs. (25c) 5 3
Women Who Did, 1 hr(25c) 17
Women Who Did, 1 hr(25c) 17 Yankee Detective, 3 acts, 2 hrs. 8 3
Tunned Detective, b dets, 2 ms. b
FARCES, COMEDIFTAS FAC

FARCES, COMEDIETAS, Etc.

I MILOLO, COMEDILIA, LIC	•
April Fools, 30 min 3	
Assessor, The, 10 min 3	2
	19
Bad Job, 30 min	
Betsy Baker, 45 min 2	2
	3
Billy's Mishap, 20 min 2	
Borrowed Luncheon, 20 min.	5
Borrowing Trouble, 20 min 3	5
Box and Cox, 35 min 2	1
Case Against Casey, 40 min23	
Convention of Papas, 25 min. 7	
Country Justice, 15 min 8	
Cow that Kicked Chicago, 20 m. 3	2

GRAFT

A POLITICAL EPISODE IN ONE ACT

BY

HARRY L. NEWTON

AUTHOR OF

"Breakfast Food for Two," "A Bundle of Burnt Cork Comedy," "The Coming Champion," "The Coontown Thirteen Club," "The Corner Drug Store," "The Counterfeit Bills," "A Dutch Cocktail," "Five Minutes from Yell College," "The Heiress of Hoetown," "The Little Red School House," "Laughland, Via the Ha Ha Route," "Marriage and After," "Oshkosh Next Week," "The Pooh Bah of Peacetown," "The Rest Cure," "Si and I," "A Sunny Son of Italy," "The Troubles of Rozinski," "Two Jay Detectives," "Uncle Bill at the Vaudeville" and "When the Circus Came to Town."



T. S. DENISON & COMPANY
PUBLISHERS

GRAFT

CHARACTERS.

PLACE—Rock City, Indiana.

Time—Early Afternoon.

TIME OF PLAYING—Thirty Minutes.

Notice—Production of this play is free to amateurs, but the sole professional rights are reserved by the Publishers.

COPYRIGHT, 1913, BY EBEN H. NORRIS.

TMP96-007091

OCLD 35401

GRAFT. 3

THE STORY.

The Era Electric Light Company, anxious to obtain a franchise in Rock City, conclude that the rights can only be secured through the "manipulation" of certain of the city's aldermen. John R. Spencer, the company's representative, calls on Henry Donlin for the purpose of buying his vote. Henry, however, is out, and Steve Donlin, his vagabond brother, receives Spencer instead. The latter, thinking he is dealing with the alderman, hands over a roll of money and departs. As Steve is about to go, Mrs. Donlin arrives. She believes her husband to be the embodiment of all that is good and noble, and in the course of the ensuing conversation with Steve, the latter has a change of heart. He tells the wife that Spencer mistook him for the brother, and that he accepted the bribe, but that Henry would not have been guilty of such an act. He hands her the money, tells her that Henry will vote "no" to the proposed franchise, and is about to leave when Henry returns. Steve dictates certain policies that Henry is to pursue and then goes, leaving the husband inwardly raving but afraid to speak, and the wife still thoroughly believing in her husband's integrity.

LIST OF PROPERTIES.

Cigars in box. Two rolls of greenbacks. Letter paper, pen and ink. Liquor flask and small glass.

STAGE DIRECTIONS.

R. means right of the stage; C., center; R. C., right center; L., left; 1 E., first entrance; U. E., upper entrance; R. 3 E., right entrance, up-stage, etc.; R. D., right door; L. D., left door, etc.; D. F., door of flat or back of the stage; up-stage, away from footlights, down stage, near footlights; 1 G., first groove, etc. The actor is supposed to be facing the audience.

CHARACTERS AND COSTUMES.

Henry Donlin—About 40 years of age, suave and well-groomed, smoothly shaven. Wears black frock coat, white vest and light trousers, high hat and black four-in-hand tie.

Steve Donlin—Thirty years old. He has a general air of easy-going, down-at-the-heel appearance, with signs of dissipation showing in his face. He is cheeky and self-assured at first, but towards the last displays the true manhood that lies within him.

"Spike" McGinnis. About 25 years of age. A typical "cheap" ward heeler. Wears "loud" clothing, smokes big cigar and flourishes a light walking stick.

JOHN R. SPENCER—Fifty years old or thereabouts. An oily individual. Wears well made business suit, gloves and straw hat.

Mrs. Donlin—A handsome woman of about 30. Wears fashionable afternoon street costume.

GRAFT

Scene: A boxed interior in 3 G., with practical doors C. and R. and L. A flat top office desk stands C., with swivel chair at back, and straight chairs R. and L. of desk. A hatrack stands R. of C. D. Other furniture to give the whole effect of a handsome private office.

At rise Henry is discovered seated at desk writing. He raises his head inquiringly as a smart rap sounds on door C. He hastily puts away a few papers laying on his desk before obeying the summons. Tilts back in chair and meekly places both hands on desk before him.

HENRY (smoothly). Come in.

Enter McGinnis, C. D. He is industriously puffing on a huge cigar, twirling cane, and comes in with confident air. He stops at C. and shoots a keen glance about.

McGinnis. Good morning, Alderman.

HENRY (visibly annoyed, pulls out his watch and notes time). You're late. This is afternoon. (Snaps case shut.)

McGINNIS (pulls handkerchief from pocket and carefully dusts seat of chair R. of desk, then slowly sits). Yes, me choofur is to blame. The man he works fer wouldn't let him have the car till after luncheon. (Crosses legs and puffs on cigar.) But it's never too late, Alderman. (Twists slowly about on chair and keenly surveys room.) Ain't nobody doin' the Sherlock Holmes thing, is there?

HENRY (snappishly). No. Hurry up! What did you do? McGinnis. Say, wait a minute! Wait a minute! (Lol-

ling back in chair, smoking indolently.)

HENRY. Come on. Get down to brass tacks. I haven't

got all day to spend in your delightful company.

McGinnis (straightening slowly and surveying Henry coldly). Well, well. What d'ye think of that! Well, well! Say, Alderman, time was when I'd a been scared stiff at

them kind of words from you; but not no more. Now I takes my time, and if you don't like it—(pauses abruptly and puffs a cloud of smoke in HENRY'S face).

HENRY (choking and waving smoke away). For pity's sake! Did you ever try smoking real tobacco? (Coughs

violently.)

McGinnis. Alderman, you'll annoy me in a moment.

Honest, you will.

HENRY (soothingly and again noting time by watch). Come, come, McGinnis. Out with it. What did you do?

McGinnis. Well, Alderman, since you ask me in such a ladylike tone of voice, what I done was this, I fixed it! HENRY. Good! (Snaps watch and puts it in pocket.)

McGINNIS. When it comes to fixing things, I'm this wellknown city's best little fixer. Ain't I? I dare you to say no.

Henry (eagerly). And you saw—saw—McGinnis (quickly). Nix! No names! Yes, I seen him. He got in this mornin'. He'll be here pretty quick to see you. Is that good enough, or do you want a mint julep wid it?

HENRY (rubs hands together in delighted manner). Yes, yes; that's excellent. (Glances cautiously about room, then lowers voice to confidential tone.) And—and the amount? McGINNIS (recrossing legs and taking a few puffs on

cigar before replying). Five thousand bucks!

HENRY (gloating, rubbing palms together in miserly manner). Aha! Five thousand dollars. Excellent, I assure

you!

McGINNIS. Gee! You don't care a thing for money, do you? (Assumes a business-like attitude and stern tone.) But here's somethin' you don't want to be fergettin', Alderman. Evans and Black has got to be took care of out of some of that. Likewise yours truly. Get me?

HENRY (frowns). Yes, yes, of course. I'll see to it that

they are remembered. We must have their votes.

McGinnis. And yours truly—meaning me. Don't let that slip your mind. Yours truly. (Taps his chest.) Which is me! (Rises.) I ain't around fixin' things fer me good health, Alderman. (Moves towards C. D.) Anyone can have good health, but it takes a genius to get easy money these suspicious times.

HENRY. That's all right, McGinnis. I'll remember you.

Good day!

McGinnis (comes back to desk, leans against Henry's chair in familiar manner). I guess you'd better slip me somethin' now, jes' as a sort of retainer. Say about a hundred klinkers. What?

HENRY (annoyed and drawing away). Nonsense! My

word is good.

McGinnis. Yes, I know that; but your money is better. Come on, Alderman. Kick in while the kickin' is good. (Holds out right hand.)

Henry (hesitates, then reluctantly puts hand in his pocket and brings out a roll of bills, counts some and hands them to him.) There you are. Now go. (Turns to desk and

busies himself with pen, ink and paper.)

McGINNIS (counts money carefully and then tucks it in pocket.) Thanks! Whenever youse want anythin' fixed, notify yours truly. Office hours any time you mention; night work a specialty; information cheerfully furnished; satisfaction guaranteed and money cheerfully refunded—if you use a gatling gun. Good day, Alderman. I'll be back tomorrow for the rest of me dividends. (Swaggers to C. D. and exits.)

HENRY (not looking up from his work). Confound him! I begin to see where he will have to be "fixed," and that before long. (He is busy with pen for a period of fifteen seconds, then C. D. opens slowly and Steve thrusts head in and peers cautiously about. HENRY continues writing, with

head bent low over work.)

Enter Steve. Comes quietly to R. of desk and gazes curiously at Henry's work. Henry finally feels his presence, his eyes slowly leave his work, his gaze travels to Steve's trousers and then slowly upward to his face. He recoils with a startled exclamation.

STEVE (laughs mockingly). Yep! It's me, dear brother! Steven Donlin!

Henry (chokingly). You tramp—you vagabond—you loafer!

Steve (helping himself lazily to chair R. of desk). Yep! I'm all of those and then some more. Eight years since I heard your brotherly voice. Sounds natural, too. Same old growl. However, I know you mean well. You know I smoke, so pass 'em out.

HENRY (angrily). What do you mean by coming here

and disgracing me?

STEVE. I haven't had a real good cigar in ages. And as for a good gulp of real liquor—huh! Believe me, brother, when I say that it's more than a couple of days.

HENRY (pulls open a drawer with a vicious jerk and brings out a box of cigars and extends it to STEVE). Here!

I hope you choke!

STEVE (carefully selecting a cigar). Say, that reminds me. Where do you keep it? You know—the liquor?

HENRY (hesitates, then jerks open another drawer and brings out a flask and glass. Glances nervously all about). .The same wish goes with this that went with the cigar.

Steve (pours out a drink). I just know you're worried sick for fear that I will choke, but I'll fool you. I've taken a good many of these without even breathing hard. Here's the way. (Gulps drink down, carefully lights cigar and then leans comfortably back in chair and blows a cloud of smoke upward.)

HENRY (disgustedly). Ugh! Very interesting, I'm sure. Steve (looks admiringly all about). Henry, this looks

like money in the bank to me.

HENRY (sharply). You've got another look coming, young man. Now I'll tell you what I'll do. I have ten good dollars here and the price of a ticket to Chicago. Or, if that doesn't suit you, the police judge is a particular friend of mine, and I'll see that you obtain a nice steady job on the rock pile for sixty days.

STEVE (waves a hand nonchalantly). Nothing near like what I had pictured, Henry dear. I dislike to pay railroad fare on general principles, and I decline to become a member of the good roads commission in this locality by assisting in preparing obstinate rocks for same. No. (Puffs thoughtfully.) No. I just believe I'll stick around here a bit and get acquainted with your friends—and family.

HENRY (starts). Family?

STEVE. Quite so. I sincerely trust that you have a nice family, Henry. (HENRY scowls.) Also that they will be duly glad to see me.

HENRY (rising angrily). Drop that! Don't bring them into this. There's such a thing as nearing the limit—and

you've about reached the mark now.

Steve (waves a hand. Soothingly). Pray, don't get excited, dear brother. Sit down. (Henry hesitates, then reluctantly sits.) Eight years, Henry, has made quite a difference in our lives, hasn't it? You're a mighty big man now—an alderman. And I—I—(laughs mockingly). Well, look me over. A lot of my misfortunes has been my own fault, I'll admit. But—more has been yours.

HENRY (sullenly). You had your chance—

Steve (interrupting sharply). You lie! When father s estate was settled, you double-crossed me, and got the big end.

HENRY (sullenly). It can't be proved.

• Steve (easily). Dear brother, life is too short to try. I'm a vagabond, a wanderer, and I'm content to remain one. I know what you are and I know what I am. And, somehow, I believe I sleep nights the better of we two, even if some of my nights are spent in a box car. (Yawns.) I have some comfort. I've always believed that I might have been a decent member of society but for you. Who knows? (Laughs mockingly.) I might even have been an alderman.

HENRY. How did you happen to—to come back here? STEVE. Quite by accident, I assure you. (Straightens quickly and assumes a business-like attitude.) And now

'I'm going to tell you what I want.

HENRY (sarcastically). Oh, really! Suppose I were to

tell you what you won't get?

STEVE (looks thoughtfully an instant at the end of his cigar, then suddenly at Henry). Eight years is a devilish long time to put in the way I have, Henry. Eight long

10 GRAFT.

years of hades! (Pause.) Don't you consider that I've got something coming to me? (Henry frowns.) No? Well, I do. I do, and I propose to get it! (Rises.) I suppose most anyone I chance to meet on the street can direct me to Alderman Donlin's residence, so you needn't take the time. I'll accept your kind hospitality and remain with you for a few days. (Starts for C. D.)

HENRY (quickly on feet, excitedly). No, no! Wait! (Steve turns, smiling mockingly). Not so fast, Steve.

I—I—you can't go to my home, you know.

Steve (mockingly). Can't I? Pray, what's to prevent? Eh?

HENRY (drops in chair again, making great effort to gain control of himself. Motions to Steve to sit down.) Sit down. (Steve hesitates, then complies.) Now just what is your game? Make it brief. (Nervously consults watch.) I've an important appointment within a few moments.

Steve. All right, dear brother. I'll be brief. I want a

thousand dollars. Is that brief enough?

HENRY (picks up pen, taps teeth thoughtfully with end of it). And just what do you propose to do, if—mind you, I say if—if I give you a thousand dollars?

Steve (smiles esthetically). I'd play my own system up to about five hundred dollars' worth of ham and eggs,

and-

HENRY (interrupting). Would you agree never to come back here again?

Steve (tersely). Yes, I'll even agree to that.

Henry (thoughtful pause). Very well. You shall have your thousand dollars. (Briskly rises.) I haven't that much on me, but I believe I can get it within a very few minutes. (Goes to hatrack, gets hat, goes to C. D., turns.) If anyone calls while I'm gone, tell them to wait. (Exit C. D.)

Steve (looks thoughtfully at C. D. for an instant). I wonder if he's gone for a cop or a thousand bucks. (Rises, yawns, thrusts hands in pockets and slowly takes a turn about room. Returns to desk, sits and carefully selects another cigar.) Um! Brother Henry is some judge of a good

cigar. (Lights cigar.) I shall have to burn up part of my inheritance in a few of these kind. (Puts feet on desk and blows smoke in real enjoyment ceilingward. Smart rap sounds on C. D. He remains in tense attitude a moment, then turns slowly and thoughtfully gazes at C. D.) Somebody evidently desires to enter. I believe somebody shall be permitted to enter. (Calls sharply.) Come in!

Enter Spencer, C. D., carefully closing door behind him. Comes down C.

Spencer (carefully taking off hat). Mr. Donlin? (Steve nods.) I'm a few minutes early, but—(looks around). You are alone? (Comes to desk and lays his hat on it. Removes gloves.)

STEVE (studying Spencer). Yes—I am alone.

Spencer (puts out hand). My name is Spencer, of the Era Electric. I'm delighted to meet you, Mr. Donlin. (They shake hands. Steve is puzzled. Spencer sits R. of desk.) It won't take me long to get down to business. You saw Mr. McGinnis?

Steve (non-commital answer). Maybe I did; maybe so. Spencer (smiles knowingly). Oh, I understand. One cannot be too careful nowadays, Mr. Donlin. (Hitches chair towards Steve in confidential manner.) Now, my folks—the Era Electric—are anxious to have this franchise matter cleared up and the ordinance passed as speedily as possible. You understand?

Steve (aside). Something's rotten in Denmark, South Dakota. (To Spencer.) Oh, yes—to be sure. Sooner the

quicker, Mr. Spencer.

Spencer. Very good. I shall not go into exhausting details to take up your valuable time, nor mine, as I have to catch my train back to Chicago. (Consults watch.) We are both business men, and while I've never had the pleasure of meeting you before, I'm enough judge of character to open up my mind and be entirely frank with you. Our proposition is not actuated by benevolent motives. My folks expect to make money from this franchise.

STEVE. Yes?

Spencer. And you, as a public-spirited official, must disregard the old-womanish traits of some of your citizens, and give the people what they want. Am I correct?

STEVE. You are correct. The people must have what they want. (Quickly aside.) I don't know what they want,

but they ought to have it anyway.

Spencer. That is why Mr. McGinnis was approached. He is one of the people. He intimated that we could be assured of your vote; also that Evans and Black could be depended upon. Now I trust that I have convinced you, Mr. Donlin. (Again consults watch.)

Steve (doubtfully). You have, and you haven't. It all

depends. Did you bring it with you?

Spencer (smiles knowingly). Oh, yes. I was thoughtful enough for that. (Reaches in inside pocket and brings out a large roll of bills.) In the old days, Mr. Donlin, they used to pass checks in these—ahem—matters. These days, we pass these. Strictly non-evidence—these. (Passes Steve the bills.)

Steve (takes money and looks curiously at it). You are

sure you are not making any mistake about this?

Spencer (pompously). Our folks, Mr. Donlin, never make mistakes. (Rises, picks up hat.) And now I may tell my folks that we may expect no opposition from you?

Steve (caressing money). No. You'll have no opposi-

tion from me, old top.

Spencer. Thanks. I feel that we can depend upon you. I'll bid you good day, as it will be much safer if I am not seen in conversation with you. (*Grabs* Steve's hand and shakes it vigorously.) Awfully glad to have met you, sir.

STEVE. Say, you ain't half as glad as I am.

Spencer. I perhaps shall see you again sometime.

Steve. Any old time you like—provided you come loaded.

Spencer (shakes Steve's hand again). Good-bye, Mr. Donlin. You'll pardon me if I seem inclined to hurry, but I have but a few moments to catch my train. (Goes briskly to C. D., turns.) Bye-bye, Mr. Donlin. (Exits C. D.)

Steve (drawing a long breath). Whew! Well, wouldn't

GRAFT.

13

that can your Delaware peaches? Who wouldn't be an alderman? (Looks at money.) But this ain't on the level. I know I'm going to wake up in just a minute. (Runs edge of bills through his fingers, counting it rapidly.) Holy sandwich! Five thousand bucks! (Rises excitedly.) Gee, it's a great game! Graft! Intended for my dear, good, noble brother; but the wires got crossed and I-(bursts into a hearty laugh), and I copped the merry kale! (Sinks into chair and assumes thoughtful pose for a moment.) Great! This beats the one thousand I was going to get by four thousand dollars. I'll hike with this, leave a note for my fond and loving brother, saying I've changed my mind, and—(seizes pen and begins to write rapidly. Knock sounds on C. D. He remains tense an instant, then drops pen and crumbles up paper, half turning towards door.) Now who the deuce is that? (Thrusts money in inside pocket.) Maybe it's another bunch of hush money. (Calls sharply.) Come in!

Enter Mrs. Donlin, C. D. Steve recoils.

Mrs. Donlin (glances inquiringly about). I beg your pardon—I—(starts in astonishment as she discovers Steve.) You! Steven! (Advances toward him, smiling and with outstretched hand.)

Steve (rising awkwardly and taking her hand. Confusedly). I—I didn't expect—you here, Sarah.

Mrs. D. No, of course you didn't. And I didn't expect to come here. I happened to remember something I wanted to consult Henry about, and stopped the motor to run in, and—(looks quickly about). But where is Henry, and how-where did you drop from?

Steve (nervously). I don't know—that is, I was just passing through town, and—and dropped into say hello

to Henry, but—(glances helplessly about).

Mrs. D. (laughs and drops into desk chair). I see. Still up to your old tricks, coming and going. But this time you are not going to leave town without first paying us a visit at the house.

Steve (nervously). No, no; impossible. I—I—got to go.

Mrs. D. Indeed you don't. The children—you've simply got to see them, you know.

Steve (starts as she says "children"). I—I—haven't

time. You see, I-I (again looks around).

Mrs. D. (laughs). Oh, come now. What will Henry say?

Steve (coldly). We'll leave him out of this, if you don't

mind.

Mrs. D. Nonsense! Remember, you are brothers. Blood is thicker than water. Just forget everything connected with that miserable past, and think only he is your own flesh and blood. Your brother!

Steve (hangs head an instant doubtfully, then raises it quickly). No—it's no use! I simply can't forget! Good-

bye, Sarah. (Extends a hand to her.)

Mrs. D. (ignores it). No, I shan't take it. I want you to see my children. And I want you to see Henry in his home, with the children—his children and mine—playing about his knee. I—

Steve (interrupting). No. Good-bye. (Starts resolutely for C, D., stops short as if struck by a sudden idea and turns back.) Oh, by the way, Sarah. How does Henry intend to vote on the Era Electric franchise?

MRS. D. (surprised). Eh? He has told me that he is

opposed to it and will vote against it. Why?

Steve (brings out package of bills and extends it to her). An agent of the company was here a few moments ago and handed me this, under the impression that I was Henry. It's the price of his vote!

MRS. D. (mechanically takes it). The—the price of his

vote? I—I don't understand.

STEVE. It's very easy. Henry would have scorned the

bribe, but I didn't. Now you understand!

MRS. D. (tensely). They tried to bribe him? The noblest, truest man in all the world! (Shakes head and smiles.) They don't know my Henry! (Proudly smiling at STEVE.)

STEVE (dryly). No—that particular man didn't, that's a cinch! But, now, Sarah, all you've got to do is to see that

the money goes back where it came from—and that Henry votes no!

Mrs. D. (firmly). I can promise you that. I can faithfully make you that promise. (Proudly.) My Henry would do it anyway.

Enter Henry, C. D., in time to overhear her last words. Henry (swiftly trying to take in the situation). What would Henry do? (Mrs. Donlin rises and faces Henry.)

Steve (quickly to Henry, giving her no time to reply).

Did you get me the money, brother?

HENRY (avoiding his wife's gaze, taking out a roll of bills and handing it to Steve. Gruffly.) Yes—take it! (To Mrs. Donlin.) And now what would Henry do, my dear?

STEVE (grabs money from HENRY'S hand). You will see that the Era Electric get back their coin! (HENRY starts.) You will say to them that their Mr. Spencer stubbed his toe and slipped the wrong party five thousand. And that if you had happened to be here at the time you would have crammed the filthy wad down his throat. You will cast your vote in the cause of civic purity, brother Henry, and defeat the infamous franchise. You will then go home to your children and look them in the eyes with your eyes, which will not be afraid to meet their innocent gaze. You will do all this, brother Henry, and I-I will never come back here to disgrace you. Good-bye! (He goes to C. D., turns and gives them a last parting look and exits. Henry stands C., with a deep scowl on face and anawing his finger nails. Mrs. Donlin stands at desk with bowed head and idly toying with package of bills. to-)

CURTAIN.

Denison's Vaudeville Sketches

"A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market,"

Price, 15 Cents Each, Postpaid

THE GODDESS OF LOVE.—Vaudeville sketch, by Harry L. Newton; 1 male, 1 female, Time, 15 minutes. Scene: Simple exterior. Aphrodite, a Greek Goddess, is a statue in the park. According to tradition, a gold ring placed upon her finger will bring her to life. Knott Jones, a tramp, who had slept in the park all night, brings her to life. A rare combination of the beautiful and the best of comedy. Novel, easy to produce and a great hit.

HER HERO.—Vaudeville sketch, by George Totten Smith; 1 male, 1 female. Time, 20 minutes. To test her lover's courage, a young lady pretends she hears a burglar in an adjoining room and insists that he shall investigate. He meets with a surprise which is far from what the jesting maiden had anticipated. Rich comedy and rapid action.

'Used 'Her Hero' with great success for six successive weeks."

A HOME RUN.—Vaudeville sketch, by Harry W. Osborne; 1 male, 1 female. Time, 15 minutes. A bit of baseball nonsense introduced into a novel situation. "Inshoots" of wit, "out-curves" of mirth and "drop-balls" of hilarity are put over the "plate" in rapid succession.

HOT AIR.—Vaudeville sketch, by George Totten Smith; 2 males, 1 female. Time, 25 minutes. Briggs and his chum after a night out. Brigg's wife after an explanation. She finds their lovely "fairy tale" simply "hot air" and they find themselves in "hot water." Their ingenuity in extricating themselves from the humid situation is most amusing.

IS IT RAINING?—Vaudeville sketch, by Harry L. Newton and A. S. Hoffman; 1 male, 1 female. Time, 10 minutes. Otto Swimorebeer, a German, Susan Fairweather, a friend of his. This act runs riot with fun, gags, absurdities and comical lines. "I have had expensive sketches, but your's beat them all."—Gust Muech, Milwaukee, Wis.

A MISTAKEN MISS.—Vaudeville sketch, by George Totten Smith; 1 male, 1 female. Time, 20 minutes. The maiden expects Smith; I male, I lemate. Time, 20 minutes. The maiden expects to meet a very sedate young man, which part he impersonates, although he is quite the opposite. He also makes up as an Irishman. However, the mistake was not amiss for the mistaken miss, as he proves to be her willing ideal. Strong plot, plenty of "laughs" with opportunity for good acting.

MR. AND MRS. FIDO.—Vaudeville sketch, by Harry L. Newton; 1 male, 1 female. Time, 20 minutes. Mrs. Fido's husband and her dog Bruno are sick. Johnson, a dog doctor, who is just over from Sweden, is mistaken for Mr. Fido's physician, and complications arise that create more disturbance than a mustard plaster on a small boy. A great Swede part. "We are now playing 'Mr. and Mrs. Fido' to crowded houses. Big hit."—The Elliotts, Clay Center, Kan.

ONE SWEETHEART FOR TWO.—Vaudeville sketch, by Harry L. Newton; 2 females. Time, 20 minutes. It is not recorded in the book of Time when one sweetheart was sufficient for two ambitious maidens. The dialogue and action in this sketch are as magnetic as the breeze from an electric fan.

T. S. DENISON & COMPANY, 154 W. Randolph St., Chicago

DENISON'S ACTING PLAYS

Price 15 Cents Each, Postpaid, Unless Different Price is Given

2	đ.	F.
Documentary Evidence, 25 min.	1	1
Dude in a Cyclone, 20 min	4	F. 1 2 3
Family Strike, 20 min	3	3
First-Class Hotel, 20 min	4	
For Love and Honor, 20 min	2	1
Dode in a Cyclone, 20 min Family Strike, 20 min First-Class Hotel, 20 min For Love and Honor, 20 min Fudge and a Burglar, 15 min Fun in a Photograph Gallery,		5
Fun in a Photograph Gallery,		
		10
30 minGreat Doughnut Corporation,		
Great Doughnut Corporation, 30 min	3	5
Great Medical Dispensary, 30 m.	6	
Great Pumpkin Case 30 min	12	
Hans Von Smash, 30 min.	4	3
Happy Pair 25 min	1	i
I'm Not Mesilf at All 25 min	3	1 2
Initiating a Granger 25 min	Q	4
Initiating a Granger, 25 min	0	2
To the Editor In 2 20 min	1	3 2 1
Is the Editor In: 20 min	4	1
Kansas Immigrants, 20 min	2	1
Men Not Wanted, 30 min		8
Mike Donovan's Courtship, 15 m.	1	3
Mother Goose's Goslings, 30 m.	1	8 3 9 3
Mrs. Carver's Fancy Ball, 40 m.	4	3
Mike Donovan's Courtship, 15 m. Mother Goose's Goslings, 30 m. Mrs. Carver's Fancy Ball, 40 m. Mrs. Stubbins' Book Agent, 30		
min	3	2
My Lord in Livery, 1 hr	4	3
My Neighbor's Wife, 45 min.	3	3
My Turn Next, 45 min	3	3
My Wife's Relations, 1 hr	4	6
Not a Man in the House 40 m		5
Obstinate Family 40 min	3	3
Only Cold Tea 20 min	3	3
min. My Lord in Livery, 1 hr My Neighbor's Wife, 45 min. My Turn Next, 45 min My Wife's Relations, 1 hr Not a Man in the House, 40 m Obstinate Family, 40 min Only Cold Tea. 20 min Outwitting the Colonel, 25 min. Pair of Lunatics. 20 min	3	2333655332132343233
Outwitting the Colonel, 25 min. Pair of Lunatics, 20 min		1
Patr of Lunanes, 20 min	1	1
Patsy O Wang, 35 min	1 4 6 6	3
Pat, the Apotnecary, 35 min	0	4
Persecuted Outchman, 30 min.	0	3
Regular Fix, 35 min	6	4
Rough Diamond, 40 min	4225334	3
Second Childhood, 15 min	2	2
Smith, the Aviator, 40 min	2	3
Taking Father's Place, 30 min.	5	3
Taming a Tiger, 30 min	3	
That Rascal Pat, 30 min	3	2
Those Red Envelopes, 25 min.	4	4
Too Much of a Good Thing, 45		
min.	3	6
Treasure from Egypt, 45 min.	4	1
Turn Him Out 35 min	3 4 3	1 2 4 3
Two Aunts and a Photo 20 m	-	4
Two Ronnycastles 45 min	3	3
Two Centlemen in a Fir 15 m	3 2	3
Two Chosts in White 20 min	4	Q
Two of a Vind 40 min	2	3
I wo of a Kind, 40 min	3	2
Uncle Dick's Mistake, 20 min.	4	1
wanted a Correspondent, 45 m.		1
Wanted a Hero, 20 min	2	1
Which Will He Marry! 20 min.	2	8
Who is Who! 40 min	3	4
Wide Enough for Two, 45 min.	5	8 3 2 4 1 8 2 2 8 3
Wrong Baby, 25 min		8
	-	
Tankee Peddier, 1 hr	7	3
Too Much of a Good Thing, 45 min. Treasure from Egypt, 45 min. Turn Him Out, 35 min Two Aunts and a Photo, 20 m. Two Bonnycastles, 45 min Two Gentlemen in a Fix, 15 m. Two Ghosts in White, 20 min Two of a Kind, 40 min Uncle Dick's Mistake, 20 min Wanted a Correspondent, 45 m. Wanted a Hero, 20 min Which Will He Marry? 20 min. Who Is Who? 40 min Wide Enough for Two, 45 min. Wrong Baby, 25 min Yankee Peddler, 1 hr	7	3

VAUDEVILLE SKETCHES, MON-OLOGUES, ETHIOPIAN PLAYS.

onocono, minior mai i mi	
Auding Transferred of min	F. 3
Ax'in' Her Father, 25 min 2	3
Booster Club of Blackville, 25 m.10 Breakfast Food for Two, 20 m. 1	
Breakfast Food for Two, 20 m. 1	1
Cold Finish, 15 min 2	1
Coon Creek Courtship, 15 min. 1	1
Coming Champion, 20 min 2	
Cold Finish, 15 min	
Counterfeit Bills, 20 min 1 Doings of a Dude, 20 min 2	1
Doings of a Dude, 20 min 2	1
Dutch Cocktail, 20 min 2	
lege, 15 min 2	
For Reform, 20 min 4	
Fresh Timothy Hay, 20 min., 2	
Glickman, the Glazier, 25 min. 1	1
The des Andre (News) 12 min. 1	1
Handy Andy (Negro), 12 min. 2	
Her Hero, 20 min 1	1
Hey, Rube! 15 min 1	
Home Run, 15 min 1	-1
Five Minutes from Yell College, 15 min	1
Jumbo Jum, 30 min 4	3
Little Red School House, 20 m. 4	
Love and Lather, 35 min 3	2
Marriage and After, 10 min. 1 Mischievous Nigger, 25 min. 4	
Mischievous Nigger, 25 min., 4	2
Mistaken Miss. 20 min 1	ī
Mistaken Miss, 20 min 1 Mr. and Mrs. Fido, 20 min 1	ī
Mr. Badger's Uppers, 40 min. 4	2
One Consett and for Tone 20 m	2
One Sweetheart for Two, 20 m.	4
Oshkosh Next Week, 20 min. 4 Oyster Stew, 10 min 2	
Oyster Stew, 10 min 2	
Pete Yansen's Gurl's Moder, 10 min	
min. 1	
Pickles for Two, 15 min 2	
Pooh Bah of Peacetown, 35 min. 2	2
Prof. Black's Funnygraph, 15 m. 6	
Recruiting Office, 15 min 2	
Recruiting Office, 15 min 2 Sham Doctor, 10 min 4	2
Si and I, 15 min	1
Special Sale, 15 min 2	
Stage Struck Darky, 10 min. 2	1
Sunny Son of Italy, 15 min., 1	
Sunny Son of Italy, 15 min. 1 Time Table, 20 min 1	1
Tramp and the Actress, 20 min. 1	i
Troubled by Ghosts 10 min. 4	
Troubled by Ghosts, 10 min 4 Troubles of Rozinski, 15 min 1	
Troubles of Kozinski, 15 min 1	
Two Jay Detectives, 15 min 3 Umbrella Mender, 15 min 2 Uncle Bill at the Vaudeville,	
Umbrella Mender, 15 min 2	
Uncle Bill at the Vaudeville,	
15 min 1	
15 min	2
Who Gits de Reward? 30 min. 5	1

A great number of Standard and Amateur Plays not found here are listed in Denison's Catalogue

POPULAR ENTERTAINME

Price, Illustrated Paper Covers, 25 c





IN this Series are found books touching every feature in the entertainment field. Finely made, good paper, clear print and each book has an attractive individual cover design.

DIALOGUES

All Sorts of Dialogues. Selected, fine for older pupils. Catchy Comic Dialogues.

Very celver; for young people.
Children's Comic Dialogues. From six to eleven years of age. Dialogues for District Schools. For country schools.

Dialogues from Dickens. Thirteen selections.

The Friday Afternoon Dialogues.
Over 50,000 copies sold.
From Tots to Teens.

Dialogues and recitations. Humorous Homespun Dialogues.

For older ones.
Little People's Plays.
From 7 to 13 years of age.
Lively Dialogues.

For all ages; mostly humorous. Merry Little Dialogues. Thirty-eight original selections.

When the Lessons are Over.
Dialogues, drills, plays.
Wide Awake Dialogues. Brand new, original, successful.

SPEAKERS, MONOLOGUES

Choice Pieces for Little People. A child's speaker. The Comic Entertainer. Recitations, monologues, dialogues.

Dialect Readings.

Irish, Dutch, Negro, Scotch, etc.

The Favorite Speaker. Choice prose and poetry.

The Friday Afternoon Speaker. For pupils of all ages. Humorous Monologues, Particularly for ladies, Monologues for Young Folks,

Clever, humorous, original. Monologues Grave and Gay. Dramatic and humorous.

The Patriotic Speaker. Master thoughts of master minds. The Poetica For reading or specific Pomes ov the Peepul.

Wit, humor, satire, funny poems.
Scrap-Book Recitations.
Choice collections, pathetic, humorous, descriptive, prose, poetry. 14 Nos., per No. 25c.

DRILLS

The Best Drill Book. Very popular drills and marches. The Favorite Book of Drills.
Drills that sparkle with originality.
Little Plays With Drills.
For children from 6 to 11 years.

The Surprise Drill Book, Fresh, novel, drills and marches.

SPECIALTIES

The Boys' Entertainer. Monologues, dialogues, drills. Children's Party Book.
Plans, invitations, decorations,

games. The Days We Celebrate. Entertainments for all the holidays. Good Things for Christmas.

Recitations, dialogues, drills.
Good Things for Thanksgiving.
A gem of a book.
Little Folks' Budget.

Easy pieces to speak, songs.

One Hundred Entertainments. New parlor diversions, socials. Patriotic Celebrations.

Great variety of material.
Pranks and Pastimes.
Parlor games for children.
Private Theatricals.

How to put on plays.
Shadow Pictures, Pantomimes,
Charades, and how to prepare.
Tableaux and Scenic Readings.

New and novel; for all ages.
Twinkling Fingers and Sway
Ing Figures. For little tots. Yuletide Entertalnments.

A choice Christmas collection.

MINSTRELS, JOKES

Black American Joker.
Minstrels' and end men's gags.
A Bundle of Burnt Cork Comedy. Monologues, stump speeches, etc. Laughland, via the Ha-Ha

Route.

A merry trip for fun tourists. Negro Minstrels.
All about the business.

The New Jolly Jester. Funny stories, jokes, gags, etc.

Large Illustrated Catalogue Free

T.S. DENISON & COMPANY, Publishers, 154 W. Randolph St., Chicago